

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office action mailed December 18, 2006 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-8 and 10-14 are pending in the application.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Original Claims 1-3 and 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reynders et al (US Patent No.: 6,992,988) in view of Narvaez, P., et al. (Narvaez), "New Dynamic Algorithms for shortest Path Tree Computation", IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking, Vol. 8, No. 6, December 2000. Original claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being upatentable over Reynders and Narvaez in view of Tang et al. (US2003/0185226 A1).

II. Applicants' Response to the Rejections

Amended Claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations of the original Claim 1 (now canceled) as well as to include a new element comprising a plurality of operators each of which may operate on a plurality of link-state protocols. The remaining claims in the application now depend from amended Claim 2.

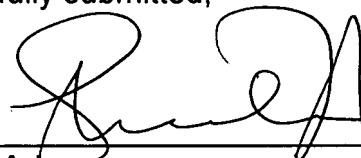
There is no suggestion in Reynders, Narvaez or Tang of employing a set of operators on the Fibonacci heap that can be used on multiple link state protocols. The ability to support operators that work on multiple link state protocols addresses a long-standing need in the prior art to reduce the size of the software used for the Fibonacci heap and for computing the Dijkstra algorithm, the combination of which is otherwise inordinately memory intensive. By reducing the size of the software, the present invention can be widely deployed on standard routing hardware which was not possible with the prior art cited by the Examiner. In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

III. Conclusion

Applicants submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested.

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4383.

Respectfully submitted,



Shaalu Mehra
Registration No. 44,934

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Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 2168
Menlo Park, California 94026
(650) 838-4300